



# ST PATRICK'S CATHOLIC SCHOOL TAUPŌ

## TE WHAKAPONO ME ANA MAHI - FAITH IN ACTION



ATAWHAI | KINDNESS



TAPATAHI | INTEGRITY



HIRINGA | DETERMINATION



KOTAHITANGA | UNITY

## MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL



**Thursday 28 May**

A chilly welcome to the second half of term 2, being only a 9 week term it is already over half way through. Our senior students from Toki Hub, enjoyed beautiful weather for their EOTC experience last week visiting the National Army Museum in Waiouru as part of their ANZAC studies. We thank everyone who was able to provide transport and supervision, such visits are not possible without this support.

### ***Teacher Recruitment and Supply***

Last week the local Central Plateau Principal's Association published the below letter. Here at St. Patrick's we are very fortunate to be fully staffed and very grateful that your children have regular teachers in their classrooms. However, we are, at times, affected by the relief teacher shortage and on some days we are unable to find cover for illness and classes need to be shared / split between other classes. We thank you for your understanding on these occasional days.

### ***To the Taupō Community – From Your Local School Principals***

Kia ora Taupō whānau,

Like you, we all want Taupō to continue being the best place it can be to live, work, and go to school. Our schools play a vital role in that vision – shaping the futures of our young people and strengthening our community. As the Principals and Boards of schools across the Taupō rohe, we write together to share an urgent issue affecting all our kura – the national shortage of qualified teachers.

Despite our ongoing efforts to recruit and support new staff, there is an increasing teacher supply challenge to meet the growing needs of our schools. This is putting a real strain on our ability to deliver the quality education our ākonga deserve.

Across the rohe, some schools are having to make difficult decisions: collapsing classes, combining year levels, or rostering students home. These measures are temporary and only taken when absolutely necessary, but we know they cause disruption for students, whānau, and staff.

Still, our commitment remains strong – to provide safe, high-quality learning environments for all. Yet at times, the staffing shortage means we cannot meet even our own expectations.

... continued next page

To give context:

- The average number of NZ-trained applicants per vacancy has halved since 2019.
- Around one-third of school vacancies remain unfilled.
- 33% of advertised roles in 2023 had no NZ-trained applicants; 31% had only one.
- Relief teacher availability is at record lows for our community.
- References-
  - (2024). 2025 Primary Teachers' Collective Agreement – FAQ and Claim Summary
  - Post Primary Teachers' Association (PPTA). (2023). Secondary School Staffing Survey Report 2023

We are calling on the strength of our community and our collective strength is needed to continue to provide the future for Taupō we are all want for our children. Your support and understanding mean everything.

If you or someone you know holds a degree and wants to make a difference, we encourage you to consider teaching. It's a rewarding career, and now more than ever, your skills are needed.

Thank you for standing with us. Together, we will continue to do our best for every learner in our community.

Ngā manaakitanga,

Central Plateau Principals

On behalf of the schools of the Taupō rohe

### ***Uniform***

There are some non-uniform items of clothing and jewellery appearing at school. Included in this newsletter are our uniform guidelines as a reminder for you, thank you for ensuring your child has the correct uniform on each day.

We do invite students on their birthdays to wear clothing of their choice to celebrate their special day.

### ***Mid Year Reporting***

As mentioned in the previous newsletter children will be receiving their mid year report in a few weeks. These are now due home to you on Wednesday 18th June, not Thursday 19th as previously indicated.

For any children who have started at our school this term, there will NOT be a written report sent home, however we encourage you to make an interview time with your child's teacher to have a conversation about how your child has settled into life at St. Patrick's.

The teachers look very forward to catching up with all parents at the interviews on Tuesday 24th June. You will receive further information soon on how to book your interview time.

### ***Teacher Only Day***

A reminder that this Friday, tomorrow 30th May, is a Teacher Only Day and the school is closed for instruction for all students. The teaching and support team will be engaged in professional learning supporting student writing.

Thank you all for your continued support. Enjoy the long weekend and we will see everyone back next Tuesday.

Vicki Saunders  
Acting Principal



## UNIFORMS

*Our uniform is something we are proud of. Please assist us in keeping it of a high standard.*

<b>SUMMER</b>	<b>WINTER</b>
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Burgundy Polo Shirt</li><li>• Navy Cargo Shorts</li><li>• Plain Navy Cargo/Track Pants</li><li>• Pinafore/Culottes</li><li>• Polar fleece or Sweatshirt</li><li>• Plain Black Sandals with Black Soles</li><li>• School Sunhat</li></ul>	<i>Same as summer but with:</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black or Navy Socks/Tights</li><li>• Plain Black shoes with black soles</li><li>• Black or navy thermals can be worn under polo shirt</li></ul>
<b>SENIOR UNIFORM</b> The Year 7 & 8 students wear;	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Burgundy Polo top with a white trim around the collar</li><li>• Fleece lined black jacket with the school logo</li><li>• Plain Navy Cargo Shorts</li><li>• Plain Navy Cargo/Track Pants</li><li>• Culottes</li><li>• Polar fleece or Sweatshirt</li></ul>	<i>In Summer</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black Sandals with Black Soles</li><li>• School Sunhat</li></ul> <i>In Winter</i> <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Black or Navy Socks/Tights</li><li>• Plain Black Shoes with black soles</li></ul>

1. Uniforms are to be worn during school hours. No other form of clothing to be worn during school hours, unless directed by the teacher. Any child who is not in the correct school uniform, must bring a note to the teacher explaining why they are not in the correct uniform and when it will be corrected.
2. Uniforms both at school and at public functions should be of correct school standard.
3. Uniform items can be purchased at The Warehouse. There are also second hand items available at the school, please enquire at the office.
4. The uniform is to be worn correctly at all times. It represents our school and our standards. Our uniform is something we are proud of. Please assist us in keeping it of a high standard.
5. All sport uniforms should be neat and tidy and school issue only.
6. The uniform is very expensive so should be used to encourage personal care and tidiness.
7. Summer uniforms may be worn from the beginning of Term 4 as the weather becomes warmer, until the end of Term 1.

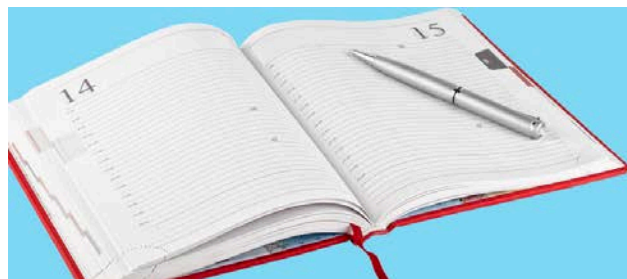
## JEWELLERY/MAKE UP

Jewellery is restricted to personal items, along these guidelines, to allow for safety.

- Rings - not allowed.
- Bracelets and necklaces are if it is a necessity eg. Medic alert, spiritual / cultural taonga.
- Watches are allowed.
- Earrings, if worn, **must** be studs. Only ONE earring per ear.
- NO make-up or nail polish to be worn at school.

## HAIR

- All hair below shoulder length is to be kept off the face.
- Black or navy hair ties or head bands are to be worn depending on hair length.



# DIARY DATES

## *Upcoming Events*

- Tuesday 27 May till Friday 13 June - Keeping Ourselves Safe Programme
- **Friday 30 May - Teacher Only Day (School Closed)**
- **Monday 2 June - Kings Birthday Public Holiday (School Closed)**
- Tuesday 3 June - Monday 9 June - Life Education Visiting
- Wednesday 4 June - PTFA AGM followed by monthly meeting
- Thursday 5 June - **Greening Taupo Day**
- Sunday 8 June - School Mass Pentecost
- Wednesday 11 June - Interschool Swimming
- Tuesday 17 June - Koru Hub Biking
- Wednesday 18 June - Mid Year Reports Home
- Thursday 19 June - 5.30pm BOT Meeting, Matariki Celebration & Jumping June Event
- **Friday 20 June - Matariki (School Closed)**
- Tuesday 24 June - Parent Interviews/Whanau Hui
- Wednesday 25 June - Orienteering Big Day Out
- Friday 27 June - Term 2 Ends



## **Attendance / Budget 2025**

### *Investing in improved attendance*

The government has recently announced an investment of almost \$140 million over the next four years to improve student attendance. This includes \$123 million for the delivery of a new attendance service and almost \$17 million to support and strengthen front-line attendance services.

New front-line attendance services will include comprehensive local attendance services funded to reach double the current number of chronically absent and non-enrolled students, and an option of some in-school provision for schools with very high numbers of chronically absent students. The new services will be in place by early 2026.

As always we appreciate your support in continuing to achieve the governments attendance targets. If you have any concerns in regards to your child's attendance please do not hesitate to reach out. In the meantime, for any absence continue to send absentee messages via the Hero app, email the school directly, [office@stpatstaupo.school.nz](mailto:office@stpatstaupo.school.nz) or phone 378 0205 / 027 756 4498.



# R.E. REFLECTION



This week we celebrated **Catholic School's Day** with a Special Liturgy led by Rm 10 and Mrs Daignault. We gathered as a school with parents to give thanks for our Catholic school of St Patrick's Taupo. We celebrated that we are a special part of God's family. When we love, share, forgive, and include others, we shine like stars in the sky, showing Christian hope to the world was the theme celebrated by all Catholic Schools in New Zealand.



## UPCOMING EVENTS

Junior Hub leading Mass, Friday 6<sup>th</sup> June.

Room 6 & 9 leading liturgy in the church, Monday 9<sup>th</sup> June. **All welcome to attend.**

**Term 2 School / Parish Mass - Pentecost Sunday 8<sup>th</sup> June - ALL children to attend please.**

Children can come dressed in bright colours and please bring along a plate to share for morning tea after Mass.

***Parents and families are always welcome to attend mass and class liturgies, children love to see you there.***

# R.E. REFLECTION



E Te Atua, God our loving Father,  
You gift us with this world and invite us to respond with love and wisdom

E Hēhu Karaiti, Jesus Christ, beloved Son,  
You show us how to live and call us to participate in your life and mission

E Te Wairua Tapu, Holy Spirit,  
You empower and guide us on our shared spiritual journey.

Bless the young people and whānau in our parishes  
and their Catholic school communities. Bless all who work in Religious Education in  
our diocese  
and across the motu of Aotearoa New Zealand .Remind us that you are always with  
us.

Fill us with enthusiasm, knowledge and joy  
to learn and teach that which is at the heart of our schools,  
You, who live and reign for ever and ever.

Āmene

Please consider letting your child experience the amazing gift of the Sacraments.

## Reconciliation, First Communion and Confirmation 2025

Preparing  
And  
Celebrating  
Together

### Come and See – Information Session

Come along with your baptised child (8 and over) and find out more  
about this years exciting programme to prepare to receive the  
sacraments of Reconciliation, Confirmation and Eucharist  
Questions? [office@tongarirocatholic.nz](mailto:office@tongarirocatholic.nz) 027 298 3461

**Sunday 8 June 2025 after 9am Mass**







# WHAT'S HAPPENING AT ST PAT'S...



We have an action packed day planned for our Matariki Celebration this year! Check out the timetable below, and prepare to join us for all/some of the day.

9-11am Skip-a-thon

11.30-1pm Matariki themed activities in classrooms

1pm Shared kai - We invite each child to bring a plate of food that they enjoy eating at family/cultural celebrations for a shared lunch.

**Please note:** If your child's dish needs to be served warm, please deliver it to school just before 1pm.

2.20pm Liturgy in the Church led by Rooms 4 & 5

Mānawatia a Matariki | Celebrate Matariki

#LOVETAUPO

# COMMUNITY NOTICES



Taupo DeBretts  
SPA RESORT

## 2025 TAUPO SCHOOL FUNDRAISER

ANNUAL FAMILY PASS SPECIAL



[soak@taupodebretts.com](mailto:soak@taupodebretts.com)

### \$295

A 12 month family pass for **ONLY \$295!**

Not only do you save off the normal price but \$10 will be donated to your child's school when you send us a completed application form.

Access includes Outdoor and Indoor Pools, Cold Pools and Spa Pools.

(Valid for 2 Adults and up to 4 Children under the age of 18).

Hydro slides are an additional cost.

Valid until 31st of July 2025

**NO EXTENTIONS**



To be eligible to purchase the School fundraiser, you must have children attending a local school

Nominate your  
Taupo School



St Patrick's School Taupo - Flyers available from office

ADULT 1

ADULT 2

CHILD 1

AGE

CHILD 2

AGE

CHILD 3

AGE

CHILD 4

AGE

ADDRESS

PHONE

EMAIL

Bank Account: 01-0427-0143377-000  
TAUPO HOT SPRINGS LTD



For Payments, use the name of ADULT 1  
as reference.



# #LOVETAUPO

# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## WARAKEI COMMUNITY GROUP invites you to a MATARIKI CELEBRATION

SUNDAY 15 JUNE FROM 1PM



### MATARIKI SHARED SOUP

★ Vegetable Donations Wanted! ★

Donation drop-off point:  
14 Rata Street, Wairakei  
Mon June 9th - until 8:30 PM

All donations will go towards making a hearty soup to share with our community during Matariki.

Thank you for helping us bring people together with food and aroha

## WARAKEI COMMUNITY GROUP invites you to a MATARIKI CELEBRATION

Caring for our Ngage  
Growing Our Whānau

### CARING FOR OUR NGAHERE

We'll start the afternoon by **mulching our young trees** at 1pm to help establish our ngage.

Then we'll come together at **2pm** to celebrate Matariki with good food and fun!

**EVERYONE WELCOME**

Live music from

### WHTEVERSCLEVER

- 🔥 Toasted marshmallows
- 🍲 Hot soup made by Hare Rewi
- 🥤 **BYO CUP** (to donate kai see QR code)
- 🥓 Sausage sizzle
- 🌿 Flax Weaving & Rock Painting
- 🏀 Ki o Rahi led by Youthtown
- 💬 **FREE ACCESSIBLE EVENT!**

Sunday, June 15

**JOIN US  
FROM 1PM**



SCAN ME

MADE POSSIBLE BY:



**WAIRAKEI VILLAGE  
TENNIS COURT**  
WET WEATHER 2PM AT SCHOOL HALL

## Positive Parenting Tips with Bay



Join us for a morning filled with valuable insights on nurturing and supportive parenting!

A workshop designed to assist you in navigating the challenges and hurdles of parenthood.

**FREE!**



Monday 23<sup>rd</sup> June 2025  
9.30am - 11.30 am  
At REAP Central Plateau  
Tea and Coffee provided

**For parents of  
children under 5**



To Register Phone 07 378 8109 OR Email:  
ako@reapcentralplateau.nz

TAUPŌ DISTRICT

# COMAVOL

COMMUNITY AND VOLUNTEERING EXPO

**GREAT LAKE CENTRE, TAUPŌ  
SATURDAY 7 JUNE 10AM - 2PM**

Comavol is a free event to connect you with various community organisations and volunteer opportunities.





# COMMUNITY NOTICES

## CENTRAL PLATEAU SAFEZONE ka tango i tetahi kainga ki te whakatipu tamaiti Magazine



### Fun Activities with Benefits

Calling all parents, teachers and educators. We are excited to welcome Polley to REAP to facilitate a series of three workshops. Fundamental movement patterns and physically active experiences support brain development. By engaging our tamariki in a range of specific physical movement and activities we ensure our tamariki gets the best start in life.



**Time:** 6.00pm to 8.00pm.

**Cost:** FREE with all costs covered by REAP

**Venue:** Tauhara room, REAP Central Plateau

“

Ideally register for all three workshops  
Email: [reception@reapcentralplateau.nz](mailto:reception@reapcentralplateau.nz)  
Phone: 07 376 8109

If you would like Polley to visit your centre, please  
contact her directly (Cost \$250)  
[polley@neuromove.co.nz](mailto:polley@neuromove.co.nz) Ph: 027 496 7157

”

### June 10th Workshop 1: Brain Integration & CTM Movement Patterns

We know that fundamental movement activities help develop the holistic brain. When we cross our mid-line, we are giving both sides of the brain the opportunity to “talk” to each other. This is crucial in developing a dominant hand and a helping hand. When underdeveloped this can impact on a child’s reading and writing.

### June 17th Workshop 2: Proprioception System (Spatial Awareness)

As a child learns to move, they begin to become aware of their body parts, where their body is in relation to the physical environment around them, and what their body looks like. When a child has opportunities to move in a variety of environments they learn about spatial awareness.

### June 24th Workshop 3: Balance & Coordination (Vestibular)

A child’s vestibular system needs to be activated and stimulated throughout life. This inner ear system impacts on a person’s ability to control balance and coordination.



For FREE access just scan the QR code to see the latest issue of the Central Plateau Safe Zone Magazine.

Practical advice to help keep our tamariki safe and enjoy a childhood free from traumatic, unintentional injury.

